

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT
Senate Bill No. 247 By Senator Long

June 4, 2012

To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate and to the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, the conferees appointed to confer over the disagreement between the two houses concerning Senate Bill No. 247 by Senator Long, recommend the following concerning the Engrossed bill:

1. That House Committee Amendment No. 1 proposed by the House Committee on Education and adopted by the House of Representatives on May 17, 2012, be adopted.
2. That House Committee Amendment No. 2 proposed by the House Committee on Education and adopted by the House of Representatives on May 17, 2012, be rejected.
3. That the following amendment to the engrossed bill be adopted:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 3, at the end of line 22, insert the following:

"Appropriations for the Central Louisiana Technical Community College for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 and for each subsequent fiscal year until the college earns regional accreditation shall not be less than the appropriation for the Alexandria, Avoyelles, Huey P. Long, Lamar Salter, Oakdale, and Shelby M. Jackson campuses of the Louisiana Technical College available on July 1, 2011."

Respectfully submitted,

Senators:

Representatives:

Senator Gerald Long

Representative Stephen F. Carter

Senator Robert Adley

Representative Jeff Thompson

Senator Conrad Appel

Representative Lowell C. Hazel

The legislative instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jeanne C. Johnston.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

Senate Bill No. 247 by Senator Long

Keyword and summary of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

POSTSECONDARY ED. Creates the Central La. Technical Community College (gov sig)

Report rejects House amendments which would have:

1. Provided that appropriation for the Central La. Technical Community College for FY 2012-13 and for each subsequent year until the college earns regional accreditation shall not be less than the combined appropriation for the Alexandria, Avoyelles, Huey P. Long, Lamar Salter, Oakdale, and Shelby M. Jackson campuses of the La. Technical College available on July 1, 2011

Report amends the bill to:

2. Provided that appropriation for the Central La. Technical Community College for FY 2012-13 and each subsequent year until the college earns regional accreditation shall not be less than the appropriation for the Alexandria, Avoyelles, Huey P. Long, Lamar Salter, Oakdale, and Shelby M. Jackson campuses of the La. Technical College available on July 1, 2011

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

Proposed law creates the Central La. Technical Community College as a multi-campus, public institution of postsecondary education under the supervision and management of the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges (LCTCS Bd. of Supervisors), subject to the appropriate approval of and oversight by the Bd. of Regents. Specifies that the creation is effective July 1, 2012, or at the appropriate time thereafter as determined by formal action taken by the LCTCS board.

Provides that the Central La. Technical Community College:

- (1) Shall provide a comprehensive educational program which may include career and technical education and training, workforce development training, adult basic education, continuing education, general education, associate degree programs, college transfer degree programs, and other educational programs and opportunities.
- (2) May grant certificates, diplomas, associate degrees, and associate transfer degrees as authorized by the LCTCS Bd. of Supervisors and the appropriate regional accrediting body as recognized by the U.S. Dept. of Education.
- (3) Shall provide educational programs and services through the Alexandria, Avoyelles, Huey P. Long, Lamar Salter, Oakdale, and Shelby M. Jackson campuses of the La. Technical College, and any other postsecondary campus or institution which may become a part of the Central La. Technical Community College or its primary service delivery area.

Requires the LCTCS Bd. of Supervisors and the Bd. of Regents to work closely with the Central La. Technical Community College and the appropriate accrediting body to ensure that the institution and all program offerings are fully accredited.

Provides that appropriations for the technical community college for FY 2012-2013 and for each subsequent fiscal year until the college earns regional accreditation shall not be less than the appropriation for the Alexandria, Avoyelles, Huey P. Long, Lamar Salter, Oakdale, and Shelby M. Jackson campuses of the La. Technical College available on July 1, 2011.

Proposed law provides that all GRAD Act performance agreements currently in effect between the Alexandria, Avoyelles, Huey P. Long, Lamar Salter, Oakdale, and Shelby M. Jackson campuses of the La. Technical College and the Bd. of Regents shall remain in effect until such time as the Central La. Technical Community College and the Bd. of Regents enter into a performance agreement and such is certified by the LCTCS Bd. of Supervisors.

Requires the LCTCS Bd. of Supervisors to submit a written report to the Senate and House education committees relative to the status of the Central La. Technical Community College, not later than January 1, 2013.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:3217.1(A); adds R.S. 17:3232)